

# SPLC News & Calendar of Events 08-04-2021

## WORSHIP

- **10:00 am worship through September 5**, in-person and livestreamed. **Starting September 12**, worship will be in-person at 9:00 am and in-person and livestreamed at 11:00 am. To view livestreamed or recorded services online, go to: <https://www.stpaulmissoulamt.org/watch-live> This page provides a link to the worship service along with a link to the bulletin and a way to make your offering online.
- **Weekly MCAT broadcasts:** SPLC services are broadcast on Wednesdays at 4 pm on MCAT, Spectrum cable channel 189.
- **Children's Ministry and Worship:** Beginning this Sunday, we will ask all worship attendees, including children, to wear a mask through the entire service. Additionally, in an effort to minimize contact between kids, we will temporarily close the PrayGround at the front of the sanctuary. We still welcome families to attend worship with their children, and Colter will continue to give his Children's Message as part of worship. A coloring page and a children's bulletin will be offered each Sunday in the back of the sanctuary for kids, and parents are encouraged to bring coloring implements (crayons and markers) from home. Small bags of crayons will be available as well, and we ask that you take them home with you if you use them.
- **Watch a replay of this past Sunday's service** here: <https://youtu.be/pPtx7cnFAPU>  
There have been 40 views of this video since Sunday.  
**Readings for Sunday, August 8:** 1 Kings 19:4-8; Psalm 34:1-8; Ephesians 4:25--5:2; John 6:35, 41-51

## COVID GUIDELINES UPDATE:

### A message from our Montana Synod and the Worship Committee of St. Paul Lutheran Church.

During this pandemic, gathering in person has required a delicate balance as we Christians weigh our need for being together as people of all ages, infant through older adult, alongside our commitments not to harm our neighbors through accidental spread of disease. We affirm that Christians may find different, faithful solutions to these challenges so long as we do not endanger ourselves or others. We offer guidance for how we can gather in careful ways that can minimize the risks so that our bodies and our fellowship may flourish.

As we enter the second year of the pandemic, our synod joined an ecumenical group of theologians, scientists, physicians, pastors, bishops, and practitioners from United Methodist, Evangelical Lutheran, Episcopal, Pan-Methodist, Presbyterian, American Baptist, and Roman Catholic traditions, among others to share their expertise and recommendations as conditions may vary over the months ahead. The link to the document prepared by this group, *Care-Filled Worship and Sacramental Life in a Lingering Pandemic*, is found here: <https://bit.ly/carefilledworship>

Already conditions in Missoula have varied. As of July 27, 2021 Missoula County reported 30 new COVID-19 cases. This is the highest number since March 27, 2021. There are 100 active cases in the County. Based on the latest science concerning the Delta variant, The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends both vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals in counties experiencing significant spread of the virus wear masks inside enclosed public areas. Missoula County was identified by the CDC as a county that should follow this guidance. Friends, the pandemic lingers, but "let us not grow weary in doing what is right" as we "work for the good of all" (Gal . 6:9-10).

During this pandemic, love of neighbor requires careful planning and openness to flexibility in response to changing circumstances. Because we love God, we want to offer worship that brings our very best. Because we love our neighbors, we want to do everything we can to make sure we bring no harm to anyone when we gather.

**While we continue to have in-person worship, effective immediately, we will return to the following Covid guidelines:**

- Wearing of masks in worship
- Use of hand sanitizer upon entering church
- Engage in physical distancing

- Hymns sung by designated singers; congregation, hum or sing softly
- No physical sharing of the peace
- Discontinue the coffee hour fellowship - fellowship outside as desired
- When communion is offered, please pick up wafer and juice packet at the back of the church as you arrive and take the packet with you to your pew
- PrayGround will be closed but Colter will still provide Children's Messages
- Please stay at home if you are sick

Jesus taught that love of God and love of every neighbor are two inseparable aspects of one great commandment for the people of God (Matthew 22:35-40). For the sake of the common good, we will have to consider the health and the vaccination status of people who gather and worship at St. Paul. We lament the pain and difficulty of these limitations, and we look forward to the day when we no longer have to wear masks and maintain physical distance from those outside our immediate households.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Office Hours, St. Paul Lutheran Church:** 10:00 am until 2:00 pm, Monday through Thursday, or by appointment.
- **Volunteers Needed in August for Family Housing Center/Family Promise:** Summer is here, but the Family Promise Coordinators are hoping that you'll have time to provide volunteer services for our church's rotation at the Family Housing Center / Family Promise the week of August 16 – 22. Below is the Sign Up Genius link where you can indicate if you are able to provide a salad, dessert, help with serving dinner or as an overnight host. Hopefully you'll be able to double up one or more of the activities on any one night. The chart is designed for both St. Paul Lutheran and Our Savior's Lutheran Church, as we work together to fill the week of August 16 - 22. The families are enjoying the spacious surroundings of the Housing Center and their independent living spaces. We hope you'll be able to support them in this upcoming rotation. There is a number to call in the Sign Up Genius link if you have any questions.  
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080D4AA5AB2DA2FA7-stpaulour>
- **WELCA Women's Fall Retreat:** Register by **September 7** to get the **EARLY BIRD RATE** for the **WOMEN'S FALL RETREAT**, October 15-17, 2021, at Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp. Motivating Speaker, Fun, Fellowship, Service Projects, and Music, Great Food (no cooking)! Bring a friend along for a fun, restful, spirit-filled weekend with women of faith on beautiful Flathead Lake. Registration and details at [www.Impluchurch.org/womensretreat](http://www.Impluchurch.org/womensretreat) Questions? Contact Nancy Solum at 406-240-0023 or [WomensSpringRetreat@gmail.com](mailto:WomensSpringRetreat@gmail.com) Sponsored by Women of the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church of America) Five Valleys and Great Divide Clusters.
- **Fall Rummage Sale save the Dates, September 9 and 10**  
The Fall Rummage Sale will take place on Friday, September 10, from 8 am until 3 pm and Saturday, September 11, from 8 am until noon if we feel we can safely manage the Health Department guidelines. Please be patient. Rummage items may be brought to the Lower Level Fellowship Hall of the church beginning Sunday, September 5, after the worship service and on Tuesday and Wednesday from 10 - 5 pm. Sale set-up will begin on Wednesday, September 8.  
We really appreciate your rummage and your support and we delighted to get ready for this event! Thanks!
- **Thank you to all those who have volunteered to serve as hosts for our summer coffee hour: The coffee hour is suspended until further notice.**
- **ICE CREAM SOCIAL at Franklin Park AUGUST 11TH, 6:30 pm**  
Everyone from St. Paul is invited for ice cream in the park. Yard games and fun for all. The splash deck will be open, bring your swimsuit if you want! Let Colter know you're coming: [colter@stpaulmissoula.org](mailto:colter@stpaulmissoula.org)
- **Middle and High School Silverwood Trip August 17th**  
Roller coasters, waterslides and other fast thrills await at Silverwood theme park in Idaho! This beloved St Paul tradition continues. Send Colter an email to sign your youth up and for more details: [colter@stpaulmissoula.org](mailto:colter@stpaulmissoula.org)
- **35<sup>th</sup> Annual Gary Turbak Memorial Back to School Clothing Project – 2021** happens on August 16th. We really need more helpers between 1:00 pm and 7:00 pm on the 16<sup>th</sup>. You can sign up on the chart in the back of the church. It will be a great, busy day. It's never too late to donate to the project -- make out your check to St. Paul and note in the memo that it's for school clothes. Thank you for your involvement and prayers!! Jan
- **Furniture Sale for Children Youth and Family Ministry:** Furniture in the chapel room on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor has been marked for sale, and the money raised will go to Children, Youth, and Family Ministry. St. Paul members will have the first chance to purchase this furniture before it is offered to the public. All furniture will be "you-haul" and Colter can help provide some muscle if needed. Contact Colter to view the furniture, make a donation offer, and arrange pickup: [colter@stpaulmissoula.org](mailto:colter@stpaulmissoula.org).

**FLATHEAD LUTHERAN BIBLE CAMP: UPCOMING FLBC RETREATS & EVENTS** Visit <https://flbc.net/annual-programming/> to learn more about our year-round programming and find information on registering for each of these retreats.



○ **BACKPACKING WITH THE BISHOP!** - Register by August 8  
August 22-26, 2021 Join FLBC Staff and Bishop Laurie Jungling for a backpacking trip through the Jewel Basin. Find more information at <https://flbc.net/backpackingwiththebishop/>

○ **LABOR DAY WEEKEND RETREAT** - Register by August 20  
September 3-6, 2021 Join FLBC for this \*free\* retreat over Labor Day Weekend! Enjoy good food, fellowship, and fun, while helping camp with some work projects!

○ **GRIEF RETREAT** - Register by August 27  
September 10-12, 2021 This retreat is for any adult (18+) who has lost a loved one such as a partner, friend, parent, or child. You are invited to spend a weekend at Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp. There will be opportunities for learning and fellowship, and time for peace and quiet. CEU credits are available through the

NRIT. <https://flbc.net/annual-programming/grief-retreat/>

● **Please contact the church office if you have a particular need**, as we have members who are interested in helping, and we can match needs with volunteers. Don't be shy. Help us be the church by assisting you!!

### PRAYERS

**This week we pray for:** † patience in healing and relief from boredom for Ian's best friend Alex; † comfort for John Medlinger and Jan Riva and family as they mourn the death of John's sister Sue; † peace and comfort for Kristin's aunt, Melba Thomsen and family; † peace for Justin and Dawn, and David Bryson; † healing and recovery for Jane Taylor, Bruce Culler Ginny, Gene Alex, Dallas, Derald, and all who are ill; † strength for Jan's brother Joe; † peace for Marsha; † help for all who face unseen illness and challenges; † comfort for Diane's mother and for Bonnie and her family; † guidance for Troy and Joshua Hiniker; † all who grieve; † comfort for the dying; † resilience for all working in healthcare facilities with surging caseloads of COVID patients; † people to step up to receive coronavirus vaccines; † efficient and swift distribution of COVID vaccines to all the world; † all who are in prison; † respite for the homeless and hungry; † an outbreak of common sense, gratitude, and kindness; † the birds to be fed every day in the winter and to be protected.

**Amen**

If you have a prayer request, send us an e-mail at [stpaul@stpaulmissoula.org](mailto:stpaul@stpaulmissoula.org), leave us a message at the church office at (406) 549-4141, or fill out a prayer request card at <https://www.stpaulmissoulamt.org/submit-a-prayer-request>.

### GIVING

**Your support of the ministry of St. Paul is greatly appreciated.** A donation can be made on our website at [www.stpaulmissoula.org/give](http://www.stpaulmissoula.org/give), by choosing "Give" in the church app, or by mailing a check to the church office. Thank you for your continued generosity!

God's Peace,

Pastor Chris & the St. Paul Staff (406) 549-4141